

09/762699  
532 Rec'd PCT/PTO 08 FEB 2001  
PATENT  
Atty. Dkt MRKS/0029

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: B. D. Pietras  
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Serial No.: Unassigned  
Filed: Herewith  
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For: Methods and Apparatus for  
Connecting Tubulars Using A  
Top Drive  
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**BOX PCT**  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: Unknown

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**  
**37 C.F.R. 1.10**

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**Please amend the following claims:**

Claim 2, line 1, please delete "or 2".

Claim 3, line 1, please delete “or 2”.

Claim 5, line 1, please delete "claims 2 to 4" and insert -claim 2--.

Claim 6, line 1, please delete “claims 2 to 5”, and insert --claim 2--.

Claim 7, line 1, please delete "any preceding claim", and insert -claim 1--.

Claim 9, line 1, please delete “any preceding claim” and insert --claim 1--.

Claim 10, line 1, please delete "any preceding claim" and insert --claim 1--.

Claim 12, line 1, please delete "or 11" and insert.